

incarnation of our Lord has done? Has not His living among us as a man, His showing to us in a form we could understand and be moved by, that unselfish love and unfailing goodness of the Divine Creator, which before had seemed so far off, so much above us and so hard to grasp—has not, in short, His Holy Life, Devoted Death, and Glorious Resurrection, enabled us to believe in and love the Father? Not otherwise is it with the Church's missions. So long as missionaries were merely far-off abstractions, with whom we had nothing personally to do, it was difficult to feel in ourselves, or to arouse in others, an interest in their work. Now, however, that, as members of the Woman's Auxiliary, we have been brought into close and intimate contact with the men and their work; now that we have in our own hands letters written to us by these valiant soldiers of the cross; now that we can read in their own handwriting the story of their labors and their triumphs, their dangers and their sufferings, we can realize, as we have never done before, the importance of the work and the necessity of our throwing ourselves into it with hearty interest.

I remember well how we felt at one of the meetings of our parochial branch when we read the pitiful story told by Mr. Black of his own sufferings last winter, through starvation, and the sufferings also of those among whom he labored. "For six weeks" he wrote, "I had nothing but a pint of flour boiled in water for my daily meal," and, he added, "our box of goods has been the means under God of saving my life; for out of gratitude for some clothing given to me from our box, an Indian had brought me some grease, and this, with the flour, kept life in me until supplies reached us from the Hudson Bay post, and though I had shared all I had with the Indians near me, many of them died from starvation." And yet, to send this box, our efforts had been so slight, our self-denial so small, in comparison with the benefit it brought, the good it was the means of accomplishing. How good, we thought, as we read his touching letter, how good has our Heavenly Father been to bless so small an offering!

Women, even more than men, should strive earnestly for the spread of Christ's kingdom. Before the world became Christianized, what a wretched position women occupied! Now, we meet with reverence and respect, for was not a woman the honored mother of the King of kings? When we consider the sad lot of the wives and daughters of the savages of our own North-West, or of the women of Mohammedanism in Turkey and India, when we compare their lives with ours, every womanly heart must be stirred with compassion, and must feel the desire kindled to do for them what has been done for us. At a missionary meeting a few weeks ago, one of the speakers said that he had

read how one of our Christian women in China, while visiting a Chinese woman and talking with her, noticed a small heap of straw in the corner of the room; once or twice she thought she saw some slight movement in the heap, and at last a tiny, little, wasted, emaciated foot peeped out. "What is that?" she enquired. The Chinese woman replied, "Oh, that is my little girl baby—don't mind—she is nearly dead, we don't give it anything to eat, we generally let such starve, you know, they are of no use." Oh! Christian mothers, compare this child's fate with that of our little ones, and yet, for these Christ died. Do we not need such examples brought close to us? What a living interest may be awakened! Is not this the way God has dealt with us in the revelation of Himself in His Son?

" And so the Word had breath and wrought
With human hands the creed of creeds
In loveliness of perfect deeds
More strong than all poetic thought."

Let me say one thing more. Many church people, women as well as men, already give to the Lord's service at least one-tenth of their income. The Jews did this, and I understand they do so still. Should not all the followers of our Lord give as much? Once let this system be generally adopted, the setting apart one-tenth of our income for pious and charitable uses, and the financial difficulties that now clog the wheels of progress in mission work would disappear, and, while sufficient would still be left for the things whereof our Father knoweth we have need, there would be poured into the "Treasury of God" sufficient for the work that He has given our Church and our age to accomplish. What we give to the missions of our Church should really cost us something. What we give should be something that we desire to have or to keep for ourselves. We give, usually, from our abundance; most of our homes are comfortable, some are luxurious; we are warmly clothed and know not want in any real form. I will try to illustrate my meaning by an incident that came under my personal observation some time before I lived in Hamilton. In a parish near my husband's mission, a clergyman and his people had erected a very handsome church. It was free from debt and about to be consecrated. I said to him, "you must have had great difficulty in obtaining sufficient money to erect such a building;" he replied, "we all gave and collected what we could," and yet last summer there was still a heavy debt, so I said to my people, "We must all make a tremendous effort and pay this balance, that on Christmas Day we may present this church to our Lord free of debt. Now, I ask you all to deny yourselves something for this purpose. Let the men see if their winter's overcoat will not last another season, and send me the price of a new